



## If at first, you don't succeed...

At 22 years old, Jane was facing a future common among her peers in tribal communities across the country. She was the mother of two boys, and unable to find a job that paid a living wage. Basic needs like food, rent, and utilities became luxuries.

As the mom of young kids, Jane had no time to search for work, let alone learn a new skill. Jane went for supportive services to the **Ute Mountain Ute Tribe** where someone recommended the Health-Care UTE Project (HCUTE), their local HPOG program. Jane was accepted into the program and started her journey to becoming a certified nursing assistant (CNA).

Unfortunately, her journey soon paused. She had trouble finding childcare and reliable transportation, and dropped out.

When Jane came back to HCUTE a year later, things had not changed; she still had childcare and transportation issues. Her HCUTE Case Manager wasn't going to lose Jane so easily this time. The

Case Manager worked to ensure Jane had improved childcare arrangements and motivated her to finish what she started. Ready to reengage with the program, Jane faced another blow. Her car broke down. Not ready to see Jane do the same, the HCUTE staff at Ute Mountain drove her to and from class for many weeks. These drives proved valuable; they gave Jane and HCUTE staff the chance to discuss her challenges and fears, review her clinical knowledge, and commiserate. The HCUTE program used its emergency fund to help her get her moving again.

**Obstacles aside, Jane completed her CNA courses in 2019. Determination, persistence, and a little help propelled her up the career ladder—even if it took a few tries to climb.**

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